Found Grave

Lk. 15:29, 30
31, 32.

INTRO. Text from Parable of Prodical but not to speak on the parable itself.

The truth I wish to present arises incidentally in the course of the conversation between the elder son and the father after the r turn of the ppodical. What an immense diffe ence is ma e in our thots, our feelings, our attitudes towards everything by the point of vew we take.

The long lost prodigal returns home and one would expect both father and son to be overjoyed together, bu but no. The father is overjoyed but the elder son is of- fended! What! hold a feat, kill the atted calf, have mu music andndancing because a good-for-nothing who has squandered all in loose living comes home? The thing was monstrous, unjust, immoral! He was angry and would not go in. Then the father comes out and puts the other side. All the father could see was- his long- lost son has come home. He who was lost is found again; the loved one who was dead has come back tonlife again. "It is meet that we should make merry abd be glad."

The saying of Epictitus- Everything has two handle by the one it can't be carried but by the other not at all. Thus, if your brother has injured you, do not take hold of this event on the side of the injury, for the handle will not support it' but take hold of it by the other handle and say,'Well, he is my brother afterall, and we were brot up together in the same house'".

So the elder brother had taken up this event of the prodical's return by the wrong handle. Likely this elder brother not only thot of the injustice to himself but of the disgrace to the family including himself.

But this elder brother was wrong, because his point of view left out of consideration some higher thing s that were worth more than his own personal interests or what others might think of his family- the rescuing of a soul, the home-coming of a wandering son.

The elder son stood for law, morality and social opinion. The father stood for religion and the grace of God.

II. This difference between one point of view and another runs thru life.

The broad facts of life are the same for all of us, but the impression they make is not the same, hence no two men will agree absolutely about everythin The state has its parties, education has its difference of methods and subjects; thinkers have their different philosophies, science has its varying theories, religion has its many creeds.

We take it for granted that this is as it shou should be. The approach to truth can be made from many angles. This struggle of many differing opinions is one of the conditions of discovering truth, etc.

But there is another side. Truth is one; th there is a right view and a wrong view, a good one and a bad one, an ignoble one and a noble one for each one of us. Harmony and unity is sought by science and the there is a harnong and a unity which we all sould seek. About some things we can always afford to disagree, for it does not greatly matter one way or the other, but about some other things we cannot afford to disagree, for they determine the kind of men and women we are, and whether our life shal be a progress and a joy or a hindrance and a sorrow, both to ourselves and to others. This is clearly shown in the parable.

Notice that the father does not allow the elder son's view to be the right one, there ought to be only one view- both the father and the son should rejoice-"it was meet that we should make merry and be glad, for this, thy brother, was dead and is alive again; and was lost but is found."

III. What causes men to take different po ints of view?

1. Temperement. We are born with a bias.
One full of grouch, another full of sunshine.
2. Early training and bringing up.

3. Character- what we are
"As a man thinketh so is he"
As a man is so thinketh he."

IV. Accepting Christ helps us to get together on the vital essentials of life.

The X-life, the X-way, the X-view brings us in harmony with our Creator and all created things, also brings us in harmony with one another.